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ABSTRACT

Because a teacher who demonstrates a love of literature and reading is a valuable model for children, a study determined the knowledge of children's and adolescent literature of students enrolled in a graduate reading methods course. A questionnaire entitled "What's Your Literature Quotient?" was administered to 72 teachers concerning knowledge of Newbery-Award-winning books and 126 teachers were surveyed concerning knowledge of Caldecott-Award-winning books. Subjects were asked to identify a book's title based on a brief descriptive phrase. Results indicated that 108 of the 126 respondents (85.7%) correctly identified "Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears," and 51 of the 72 respondents (70.8%) correctly identified "Sarah, Plain and Tall." The two questionnaires and compilations of data (indicating the rank ordering of titles receiving correct responses) are attached. (RS)

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ED 380 782

# What's Your Literature Quotient?

Dan T. Ouzts

There are a number of ways to use literature as part of reading instruction, but the first step for any teacher who wishes to prepare for literature-based reading instruction is to become familiar with the diverse and ever expanding world of children's literature(Cullinan, 1987).

Almost overnight teachers have been asked to become children's literature experts, knowing the perfect book for every situation, every reader, and every curriculum area(Richards, 1994). And, not just the perfect book, but an extensive repertoire of perfect books. Teachers must also appreciate and demonstrate excitement about the literature they use in their classrooms. A teacher who demonstrates a love for literature and reading is a valuable model for children. Teachers should never hesitate to show that they love books and written language. Literature is an adventure and those teachers who work with children have the priviledge and responsibility or guiding them on an unforgettable journey that will last forever.

In order to determine knowledge of children and young adult literature, two separate research questions were asked of graduate students enrolled in graduate reading education courses. The questions were ones of what are the Newbery and Caldecott books. After responding to these two questions, a questionnaire entitled "What's Your Literature Qoutient?" was administered to 72 teachers concerning knowledge of the Newbery Books. A separate questionnaire was administered to 126 teachers concerning knowledge of the Caldecott Books. (Please see Analysis, nb6894 (Newbery 1968-1994) and Analysis 3894(Caldecott 1938-1994).

An analysis of the two questionnaires revealed books known and unknown by the two samples. See results of the questionnaires and rank-ordered titles.

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## References

Cullinan, B.E.(1987). Inviting readers to literature. In B.E. Cullinan(Ed.). Children's literature in the reading program. Newark, Delaware: International Reading Association.

Richards, P.O.(1994). Thirteen steps to becoming a children's literature expert. Reading Teacher, 48, 90-91.

_____nb6894

_____cd3894

# What's Your Literature Quotient?

Dan T. Ouzts

_____(This is your assigned number).

DIRECTIONS: Do not place your name on these forms. A number has been assigned to you and that number appears on the line above. It is important that you remember your assigned number. Please write this number in a secure place now.

On the following pages descriptors/clues are given from books. Read the descriptors/clues and write the title of the book from which those descriptors/clues are given on the provided lines.

cd3894

| | DESCRIPTOR/CLUE | TITLE |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | A picture book of creatures in the Old Testament, the Psalms and the Gospels | _____ |
| 2. | After spending an eventful day at the fair held on New Year's Eve, a little Chinese girl arrives home just in time to greet the Kitchen God | _____ |
| 3. | A stove-top hat and the Emancipation Proclamation | _____ |
| 4. | I am proud of my mother and my father and their mothers and fathers and I am proud of the country that they helped to build | _____ |
| 5. | Jack, Kack, Lack, Mack, Nack, Ouack, Pack and Quack | _____ |
| 6. | A house that could not be sold for gold or silver and eventually becomes a house in the city | _____ |
| 7. | The Princess Lenore wants the moon, and when she gets it, she will be well again | _____ |
| 8. | Bless other children, far and near and keep them safe and free from fear | _____ |
| 9. | A book of 26 American rhymes and jingles | _____ |
| 10. | A small piece of land in the ocean becomes personified/a part of the world and a world of its own | _____ |
| 11. | White snow, bright snow, smooth and deep....Light snow, night snow, quiet as sleep.....Down, down, without a sound; Down, down, to the frozen ground | _____ |
| 12. | Snow, snow, nothing but snow and the birds and the animals of the hill were very hungry | _____ |

cd3894

| | DESCRIPTOR/CLUE | TITLE |
|---|---|---|
| 13. | Saint Joseph's Day and the return of many birds | |
| 14. | Dyeing eggs and placing the eggs on a tree | |
| 15. | "Whose bone is it?" | |
| 16. | Better a bear in the orchard than an Orchard in the bear | |
| 17. | A girl named Madeline falls into the Seine River and is rescued by a dog called Genevieve | |
| 18. | Do not stay a moment after midnight If you do, your coach will turn back into a pumpkin | |
| 19. | A frog and a rat get married and go to France | |
| 20. | Trees make everything beautiful | |
| 21. | It is a time of wonder-for wondering, for instance: where do hummingbirds go in a hurricane? | |
| 22. | "Never again shall you with your flattery get me to sing with my eyes closed." | |
| 23. | A star pinata for a little Mexican girl named Ceci for her posada | |
| 24. | Old Russian woman and the Holy Child | |
| 25. | Mouse→cat→dog→royal tiger→mouse | |
| 26. | New snowfall and a little Black boy named Peter | |
| 27. | Max is sent to bed without his supper and his room becomes a magical place of wild things | |

cd3894

| | DESCRIPTOR/CLUE | TITLE |
|---|---|---|
| 28. | A king and a queen invite a boy to their house and he brings many animals | |
| 29. | Lacklie MacLacklan, his wife, and ten bairns and room galore | |
| 30. | A girl named Samantha, or Sam, has a vivid imagination that constantly runs wild | |
| 31. | Corporal Farrell brought the barrel, Private Parriage brought the carriage, but Drummer Hoff fired it off | |
| 32. | A fool who seeks his fortune and marries the Czar's daughter by making a flying ship | |
| 33. | A donkey who disappears | |
| 34. | Ananse the Spiderman | |
| 35. | A fox who lost his tail and had to perform tasks to regain his tail | |
| 36. | A runaway dumpling | |
| 37. | At your service, Duffy my dear, said the devil | |
| 38. | A Pueblo Indian tale of a boy who became an arrow in search of his father | |
| 39. | What the mosquito told the iguana | |
| 40. | 26 African tribes from A to Z | |
| 41. | Wordless book of the 40 day storm | |
| 42. | A Native American girl who becomes a horse at death | |
| 43. | An ox cart filled with family-made goods | |

cd3894

| | DESCRIPTOR/CLUE | TITLE |
|---|---|---|
| 44. | Fables with each having a moral | |
| 45. | A jungle journey | |
| 46. | African storytelling and images cast by shadows | |
| 47. | Louis Blériot and his flight across the English Channel | |
| 48. | George the Red-Cross Knight and Una | |
| 49. | The bell rings for those who believe | |
| 50. | Island in the sky with beautiful birds becomes a temporary home for a janitor and his dog | |
| 51. | Owling | |
| 52. | Dancing in the attic | |
| 53. | Chinese Red Riding Hood | |
| 54. | Udder Chaos/Holstein Cows | |
| 55. | Flying frogs | |
| 56. | The Great Bellini | |
| 57. | Love of two lands-Japan and the United States | |

cd3894

ANALYSIS
126 respondents
1. Five media specialists
2. Four RR Teachers
3. One Principal
4. One Assistant Principal
5. Forty-three Chapter 1 Teachers
6. Seventy-two Classroom Teachers(grades 1-5)

| | TITLE | NUMBER | PERCENTAGE |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears | 108 | 85.7% |
| 2. | Where the Wild Things Are | 95 | 75.3% |
| 3. | The Polar Express | [93 | 73.8% |
| 4. | Many Moons | 93] | 73.3% |
| 5. | Sylvester and the Magic Pebble | 92 | 73.0% |
| 6. | A Snowy Day | [90 | 71.0% |
| 7. | Madeline's Rescue | 90] | 71.0% |
| 8. | Cinderella or The Little Glass Slipper | 89 | 70.6% |
| 9. | Jumanji | [81] | 64.2% |
| 10. | Make Way for Ducklings | 81 | 64.2% |
| 11. | Sam, Bangs and Moonshine | [81 | 64.2% |
| 12. | The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses | 81] | 64.2% |
| 13. | Arrow to the Sun | 81 | 64.2% |
| 14. | Fables | [78 | 61.9% |
| 15. | Shadow | 78] | 61.9% |
| 16. | Tuesday | 72 | 57.1% |
| 17. | Owl Moon | 72 | 57.1% |
| 18. | Frog Went A-Courtin' | 72 | 57.1% |
| 19. | Hey, Al | 72 | 57.1% |
| 20. | Ashanti to Zulu | 72 | 57.1% |
| 21. | Abraham Lincoln | 72 | 57.1% |
| 22. | One Fine Day | 72 | 57.1% |
| 23. | Noah's Ark | 72 | 57.1% |
| 24. | May I Bring a Friend | 72 | 57.1% |
| 25. | Ox-Cart Man | TITLES 25 THROUGH | |
| 26. | Mei Li | 49 HAD 61 OR | |
| 27. | White Snow, Bright Snow | FEWER CORRECT RESPONSES | |
| 28. | The Little House | OR 48.4% OR LESS | |
| 29. | The Egg Tree | | |
| 30. | The Big Snow | | |
| 31. | Song of the Swallows | | |
| 32. | Nine Days to Christmas | | |
| 33. | Babousha and the Three Kings | | |
| 34. | Once a Mouse | | |
| 35. | Always Room for One More | | |
| 36. | The Fool of the World and the Flying Ship | | |
| 37. | A Story A Story | | |
| 38. | The Funny Little Woman | | |
| 39. | Duffy and the Devil | | |
| 40. | Drummer Hoff | | |

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| TITLE | NUMBER | PERCENTAGE |
|---|---|---|
| 41. The Glorious Flight | 61 OR FEWER CORRECT | |
| 42. Saint George and the Dragon | RESPONSES OR 48.4% | |
| 43. Chanticleer and the Fox | OR LESS | |
| 44. Animals of the Bible | | |
| 45. Song and Dance Man | | |
| 46. Lon PoPo | | |
| 47. Mirette on the High Wire | | |
| 48. Black and White | | |
| 49. Grandfather's Journey | | |
| ********** | ********** | ********** |
| 50. They Were Strong and Good | ITEMS 50-57 WERE NOT | |
| 51. Prayer for A Child | RESPONDED TO. | |
| 52. The Rooster Crows | | |
| 53. The Little Island | | |
| 54. Finders Keepers | | |
| 55. The Biggest Bear | | |
| 56. A Tree is Nice | | |
| 57. Time of Wonder | | |

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What's Your Literature Quotient?

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nb6894

| DESCRIPTOR/CLUE | TITLE |
|---|---|
| 1. Claudia runs away and lives at the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art | |
| 2. An epic type book set in the land of Pyrdain | |
| 3. Poor Black sharecroppers and a faithful coon dog | |
| 4. A mentally retarded younger brother named Charlie | |
| 5. Super rats | |
| 6. Her Eskimo name is Miyax | |
| 7. A 13 year old white boy is forced to join the crew of a slave ship and "dance" the slaves | |
| 8. Mayo Cornelius Higgins | |
| 9. Will Stanton tries to find the golden harp to awaken the ancient sleepers | |
| 10. Cassie Logan, a girl reared by a proud and independent Black family | |

| DESCRIPTOR/CLUE | TITLE |
|---|---|
| 11. The secret land of Leslie and Jess | |
| 12. Sixteen heirs to the Sam Westing estate | |
| 13. A 14 year old New Hampshire girl keeps a journal for two years and during this time her father remarries and her best friend dies | |
| 14. Chesapeake life of Caroline and Louise | |
| 15. A book of poems about life at an imaginary inn run by William Blake | |
| 16. Dicey, James, Maybeth and Sammy Tillerman | |
| 17. Journal writing of Leigh Botts to his favorite author | |
| 18. Aerin, with the guidance of the wizard Luthe and with the help of the blue sword, wins the birthright due her as the daughter of a Damarian King | |
| 19. A mail-order bride from Maine | |
| 20. Prince Brat and Jemmy | |

nb6894

| DESCRIPTOR/CLUE | TITLE |
|---|---|
| 21. 16th president "in pictures" | _____ |
| | _____ |
| 22. Celebration of insect life and insect poetry | _____ |
| | _____ |
| 23. Danish Jews escape/Copenhagen 1943 | _____ |
| | _____ |
| 24. Jeffrey Lionel was always running | _____ |
| | _____ |
| 25. A lost beagle, Marty Preston and Judd Travers | _____ |
| | _____ |
| 26. Aunt May, Uncle Ob, Summer and Cletus | _____ |
| | _____ |
| 27. Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas and Gabriel | _____ |
| | _____ |

nb6894

ANALYSIS

72 respondents
1. 18 M.Ed. in Reading
2. 31 MS/HS Teachers
3. 23 MAT(Required to take Teaching Reading in the Secondary School and some had taken Adolescent Literature)

| TITLE | NUMBER | PERCENTAGE |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Sarah, Plain and Tall | 51 | 70.8% |
| 2. Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH | 45 | 62.5% |
| 3. Sounder | [37 | 51.3% |
| 4. Bridge to Terabithia | 37] | 51.3% |
| 5. Jacob Have I Loved | 36 | 50.0% |
| 6. Summer of the Swans | 21 | 33.3% |
| 7. M.C. Higgins, The Great | 18 | 25.0% |
| 8. Dear Mr. Henshaw | [15 | 20.8% |
| 9. Julie of the Wolves | 15] | 20.8% |
| 10. Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry | [14 | 19.4% |
| 11. Number the Stars | 14] | 19.4% |
| 12. A Gathering of Days | 13 | 18.0% |
| 13. The Whipping Boy | 12 | 16.6% |
| 14. The Westing Game | [8 | 11.1% |
| 15. Maniac Magee | 8] | 11.1% |
| 16. The Slave Dancer | [8] | 11.1% |
| 17. Dicey's Song | 7 | 9.7% |
| 18. Lincoln: A Photobiography | [3 | 4.1% |
| 19. Joyful Noise | 3] | 4.1% |
| 20. Shiloh | [3] | 4.1% |
| 21. Missing May | 2 | 2.7% |
| 22. From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs Basil E. Frankweiler | 0 | 0% |
| 23. The High King | 0 | 0% |
| 24. The Grey King | 0 | 0% |
| 25. William Blake's Inn | 0 | 0% |
| 26. The Hero and the Crown | 0 | 0% |
| 27 The Giver | 0 | 0% |

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Scavenger Hunt:

You will have to visit a library or do some "hunting" to find the answers to these literature questions. Some are from children's books and some are from young adult fiction books.

Scavenger Hunt #1:

1. How many men were in the book Drummer Hoff?
2. What state was Sarah of Sarah, Plain and Tall from?
3. Who has won three Caldecott awards?
4. Who has won two Caldecott awards?
5. What was Sylvester's last name of Sylvester and the Magic Pebble?
6. He was always running and was from Bridgeport?
7. A Newbery medal winner and a Caldecott Honor book?
8. 4:38 A.M.?
9. A janitor named Al and his dog Eddie?
10. whoo-whoo-who-who-whooooooo?

Scavenger Hunt #2:

1. Viola Swamp?
2. Wilber?
3. I think I'll move to Australia?
4. Thomas J., Carlie and Harvey?
5. Friendly, West Virginia?
6. Margaret?
7. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday?
8. Purple cat?
9. Boy-Strength-of-Blue-Horses?
10. Clement Moore?

Scavenger Hunt #3:

1. How many eggs did Charlotte lay?
2. Who was Cracker Jackson's friend?
3. What would be a skill learned/taught in Jumanji?
4. How many heirs were there in Sam Westing's fortune?
5. For which two books has Lois Lowry won the Newbery Medal?
6. Underline the titles of any Gary Paulsen books.....

If you use the crossing to go over the river, you'll reach the canyons. Use your hatchet to cut through the forest. You will then be given directions to the winter room where you will be staying. I last visited this area the night the white deer died.

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